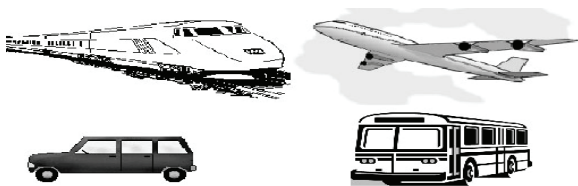


Winter Travel



Whether you are traveling by car, or plane (Amtrak and Greyhound do not transport live animals) pre-planning is essential! Do your hotels or motels allow pets? (Is there an additional fee?) Do all your planned activities allow dogs? Are all your bully's shots current...and do you have proof? Do you have current contact information on a tag or collar in case of separation? Is your Bulldog microchipped?

When traveling by air; a crate is mandatory. Be sure to check your airline's specific crate requirements. Many airlines have heated cargo areas especially for pets traveling with their people, however around the holidays, airlines are booked solid ...even overbooked. So be sure to plan accordingly. You could be separated from your bulldog by being bumped to another flight. Direct flights are best when traveling with a dog in Cargo.

A crate is also the safest way for your bulldog to travel in the car. He/she will have their own space with plenty of ventilation, fresh water, and a toy or chewy to occupy them. The crate provides your bulldog a level of security during a family adventure. It remains constant regardless of the many rooms you may stay in, the different terrain you may traverse and the different schedules you may keep.

Be sure to carry with you, a current picture and all documentation in case of separation. Also carry plenty of water and your dog's normal diet, it may be unavailable in another area. Bulldogs are very ritualistic. They love routine. A new diet could upset his/her stomach. Bulldogs love their family, and above all want to be with them. Careful planning on your part will keep the whole family happy!

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FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE CARE OF YOUR BULLDOG :

Visit www.thebca.org for current educational materials designed to help you in the care and maintenance of your bulldog and contact information for BCA affiliated clubs in your area.



Winter with your bulldog can be a fun time with some preplanning and common sense. Day to day living with colder climates requires preparation. Holiday's need to be carefully thought out.

The holidays are filled with wonderful smells, tasty treats, and lots of friends and family..but several plants, food items, room fragrances, decorations, holiday treats, etc not to mention trips, parties and new schedules, can be very disruptive if not outright harmful to your bully. Do your research.

Plan well in advance if traveling with a bulldog. Make sure all immunizations are current and that you have documentation. Airlines only allow 2-4 dogs per plan...make reservations early...and book direct flights.



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BULLDOGS AND WINTER

INFORMATION ON THE CARE OF YOUR BULLDOG

*Special considerations
for colder weather*



**BULLDOG CLUB OF
AMERICA
EDUCATION COMMITTEE
2008**

Cold Considerations



- Don't leave your bulldog outside in the cold for long periods of time. Wind chill lowers actual temperature readings. Be attentive to your dog's body temperature, and limit time outdoors.
- Adequate shelter is a necessity. Keep your bulldog warm, dry and away from drafts. Tiles and uncarpeted areas may become extremely cold, so make sure to place blankets and pads on floors in these areas.
- Be extra careful when walking or playing with your bulldog near frozen lakes, rivers or ponds. Your dog could slip or fall through and get seriously injured. Remember most bulldogs do not swim.
- Groom your dog regularly. Your bulldog needs a well-groomed coat to keep properly insulated. His/her Short coarse-haired coat may get extra cold, so consider a sweater or coat.
- It takes more energy in the winter to keep body temperature regulated, so additional calories are necessary for a bully who spends a lot of time outdoors..
- Towel or blow-dry your dog if it gets wet from rain or snow. It is important to dry and clean the paws, too. This helps avoid tiny cuts and cracked pads. A little petroleum jelly may soften the pads and prevent further cracking.
- Don't leave your dog alone in a car. If the car engine is left on, the carbon monoxide will endanger your dog's life. If the engine is off, the temperature in the car will get too cold.
- Provide plenty of fresh water. Surprisingly, your bulldog is just as likely to get dehydrated in the winter as in the summer! Snow is not a satisfactory substitute for water.

Winter Dangers

- Antifreeze, which often collects on driveways and roadways, is highly poisonous. Although it smells and tastes good to your bulldog, it can be lethal.
- Rock salt, used to melt ice on sidewalks, may irritate footpads. Be sure to rinse and dry your bulldog's feet after a walk.
- Frostbite is your bulldog's winter hazard. To prevent frostbite on his/her ears, tail and feet, don't leave your bulldog outdoors for too long.



Winter can be lots of fun, but also can be very dangerous for your bulldog.

- Be very careful of supplemental heat sources. Fireplaces and portable heaters can severely burn your bulldog. Make sure all fireplaces have screens, and keep portable heaters out of reach.
- Like people, dogs seem to be more susceptible to illness in the winter. Take your dog to a veterinarian if you see any suspicious symptoms. Don't use over-the-counter medications on your dog without consulting a veterinarian.
- Holly, mistletoe and poinsettia plants are pet poisons! Make sure they are kept in places your dog cannot reach
- Icy walkways can cause serious injuries to Bulldogs hips and knees Be extra careful when walking or playing with your dog outside.
- Snow can muffle scents, and your dog can easily get lost.

Holiday Safeguards

The holidays bring lots of fun festivities, but pet-owners should keep in mind the following special precautions:

- Holidays are not the time for introducing a pet into your family. New puppies require extra attention and a stable environment, which the holiday season doesn't permit.
- a puppy is not a toy or gift that can be returned. A new Bulldog owner needs to be ready and willing to make the huge commitment the breed requires.
- Review holiday gifts for bulldogs to make sure they are safe. Items such as plastic toys and raw-hide chews may be dangerous.
- Remove holiday lights from lower branches of your tree. They get very hot and may burn bulldogs.
- Watch out for electrical cords. Pets often try to chew them and may get badly shocked or electrocuted. Place wires out of reach.
- Avoid using glass ornaments. They break easily and may cut a bulldog's feet and mouth.
- Refrain from using edible ornaments. Your bully may knock the tree over in an attempt to eat them. Also, commercial ornaments may contain leaded paint or toxins .
- Whether your tree is live or artificial, both kinds of needles are sharp and indigestible. Don't leave your bulldog unattended in the room with the tree.
- Tinsel is dangerous for dogs. It may obstruct circulation and, if swallowed, block the intestines.
- Alcohol and chocolate are toxic for dogs, even in small amounts. Keep unhealthy, sweet treats and seasonal goodies out of reach.